



St. Benedict Catholic Church

Sunday May 24, 2020

The Ascension of the Lord

PARISH:

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MISSION CHURCH:

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Kealahoukua

WEEKEND MASSES

St. Benedict, Honaunau

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 7:15 a.m.

St. John the Baptist

Kealahoukua

Saturday 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

St. Benedict, Honaunau

7:00 a.m. Tues., Thurs. & Friday

St. John the Baptist Kealahoukua

7:00 a.m. Wednesday

PASTOR

Rev. Siegfred Dosdos

DEACON

Craig Camello

BUSINESS MANAGER

Susan Keen

OFFICE STAFF

Penny Burgess

GROUNDS & MAINTENANCE

Peter Estoy

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Edwina Fujimoto

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

Edwina Fujimoto

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ariel Hadap

FOOD PANTRY

Francisco and Debra Javar

ARE WE, LIKE THE DISCIPLES, LOOKING IN THE WRONG DIRECTION?

As they looked up to heaven, they probably realized what they had lost. Jesus was no longer in their midst. But then, the Easter stories all tell us that they never really understood his risen presence with them. And so they were asked: "Why are you standing here looking at the sky?" (Acts 1:11). Are we also looking up to heaven when we should be looking out to the world? Of course, it is right that we reflect on Jesus' ascension. However, today's understanding of the universe helps us realize that the biblical account of Jesus' ascension into heaven may be a way of saying that he is glorified with God. As Paul says, he has been granted the place of honor at God's right hand, "far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion" with "all things beneath his feet" (Ephesians 1:21-22). Jesus, now with God, radiates the full splendor of his resurrection. We must turn to the Gospel passage to get the fullness of the story of the ascension. Jesus did not say: "Watch what is going to happen." Instead he told them to go out: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19). We might know these words so well that we miss their forcefulness. In effect, Jesus is telling them: go out to the whole world and tell them what you have seen and heard. I did what it was for me to do; now it is up to you to do the rest. Don't worry, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). Look where you're going, not where I went.

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—S r. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection ~

In what ways have other people touched you with the mystery of the risen Jesus? ~

In what ways do you bring the reality of Jesus to people in your life?

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: ... as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. [Acts 1:1-11](#)

Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. [Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9](#)

Second Reading: ...and gave him as head over all things to the church., which is his body...[Eph 1:17-23](#)

Gospel: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations..." [Mt 28:16-20](#)

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The office is closed on holidays and weekends.

BULLETIN: Articles and photos (with caption) for the bulletin must be **emailed** to st.benedict@rcchawaii.org **Submission deadline: TUESDAY at 5:00pm.**

WEBSITE: thepaintedchurchhawaii.org

HOSPITALITY

ONLINE MASS CELEBRATIONS

- ◆ Vatican News Live Stream of Pope Francis Mass go to **“Pope Francis-Holy Mass”**
- ◆ Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace, Bishop Silva, Mon-Sat 8:00 am, Sunday 9:00 a.m. go to **catholicahawaii.org**
- ◆ St. Michael’s Sunday Mass—Father Lio, Mass in English 9:00 a.m.—Fr. Noe, Mass en espanol 11:00 a.m. Go to **St. Michael's Kona Music Ministry YouTube** or **One Catholic Ohaha’s Facebook Live**
- ◆ Catholic TV Network—Daily Mass—go to **watchthemass.com**
- ◆ Daily Mass with Bishop Robert Barron—go to **wordonfire.org**



I want to deepen the spiritual sense of Christ in my life. How can I create a strong spiritual connection to Jesus?

Your answer may be within your own parish. I suggest you begin your spiritual journey by connecting with a parish outreach group. When I worked as a missionary in Brazil, I marveled at how the youth groups that I worked with brought a deeper spirituality to my own life. It was common in Brazil to have a three-day retreat leading up to Lent. Although this was a youth retreat, it also energized the adults who worked with them. The highlight was on Ash Wednesday evening, when the teens would give public testimony at Mass to the Lord working in their lives. Their testimony inspired parishioners to rededicate themselves to educating the smaller children throughout the year. A youth group never lacks in spirit, which is usually contagious! It’s difficult to seek spiritual enlightenment alone. There’s spiritual strength in numbers (even Jesus kept twelve disciples near him!), and even greater spiritual power within the graced walls of your parish. When you serve others, your spiritual path is deepened and expanded. Working with youths is just one way to enhance your spiritual connection. Remember the words of St. Paul: “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit” (1 Corinthians 12:4–7).
—Fr. John Gouger, CSSR

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PROTECT HAWAII AGAINST COVID-19... CARE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Basic everyday actions recommended:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Keep a 6 ft. distance from others and wear a mask in public.
- Wash hands often—at least 20 seconds.
- Shaka or peace sign only—no handshakes or hugs.
- Clean common surfaces and objects—for example tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, cabinet handles. Use regular household detergent and water, then disinfectant products per manufacturer’s instructions.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.

St. Joseph, hope of the sick, pray for us.

St. Rocco, protector against the plague, pray for us.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE –MAHALO!!

May 13, 2020
\$2,727.00

ENCOURAGING NEWS!

As the pandemic has changed our lives drastically in the past months, I, as your pastor, have been thinking of you and praying for you every day while trying to find alternative ways to reach out and to support you spiritually in this challenging time. So also has Bishop Silva been working toward the goal of bringing us back to the Eucharist. In his response to Mayor Caldwell about the “stay at home” order, Bishop said, “We (the Diocese) are working toward responsibly getting people back into church, so that they can receive Communion during the celebration of the Eucharist. I hope that, just as restaurants are soon to be open with proper protocols, we will be able to open our churches VERY SOON to celebrate in a way that respects our own religious practices.”

In line with this, I am preparing for our coming together and celebrate the Eucharist. Hopefully this will be soon, however we need to follow preventive protocols. Thus, I am asking you to gather whatever hand sanitizers, spray disinfectants, disinfectant wipes, etc. for keeping our worship space safe, as we have found none. Then, note fully, that we will also be requiring social distance and use of masks.

Be assured of my gratitude and prayers for all of you and may the Risen Lord give you strength, hope and new life!

– Fr. Sieg



PRAYER

FAITH FORMATION

MAY—MONTH OF MARY

DEVOTION TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER

The Angelus

V — The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R — And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary... (Say The Hail Mary here.)

V — Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R — Be it done unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary...

V — And the Word was made Flesh.
R — And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary...

V — Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.
R — That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY: Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH, KEEP THEM IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Steve Texeira, Rudy Crusat, Elizabeth Awa, Johnny Koene, Ruby Ann Kaho'onei, Chickie and Tony Dias, Phyllis Blank Leathead, Robin Crusat, Charles Tripoli, Danny Burgess, Helen Doria, Linda Adkins, DeeDee Tripoli, Guy Miranda, Venancio Mendoza, Alexi Velloso, Michael Suber, Bobbie and Eddie Navas, Theresa Flemming. Call the office to add your loved one or yourself to the list of those needing prayer.

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

God of power and mercy, You destroy war and put down earthly pride. Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters.



Keep in your mercy those men and women who have died in the cause of freedom and bring them safely into your kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THIS CALENDAR IS PROVIDED SO THAT WE MAY READ AND MEDITATE EACH DAY ON THE MASS READINGS DURING THE SUSPENSION OF OUR PARISH EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS.

CALENDAR

Monday MAY 25 Easter Weekday Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday MAY 26 St. Philip Neri, Priest Acts 20:17-27 Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday MAY 27 Easter Weekday Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday MAY 28 Easter Weekday Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Jn 17:20-26

Friday MAY 29 Easter Weekday Acts 25:13b-21 Jn 21:15-19

Saturday MAY 30 Easter Weekday Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Jn 21:20-25

Sunday MAY 31 Pentecost Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 Jn 20:19-23

Lord, help me to always seek what is above.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.



A HAWAII CATHOLIC HERALD INTERVIEW WITH BISHOP LARRY SILVA ON SHEPHERDING THE FLOCK DURING A PANDEMIC

(Continued from 05/17/2020 bulletin)

Herald: What lesson has this pandemic taught us?

Bishop Silva: As someone said to me, the pandemic is a great equalizer. It has made us realize that the whole world is one family, that we are all vulnerable, but that we are all strong if we work together and support one another. It has also taught us not to take things for granted. When we cannot attend the liturgy, cannot enjoy a simple gathering with friends, or go for a hike, we are challenged to remember how blessed we normally are and to be more appreciative to God for the gifts he gives us every day.

Herald: How do you think our diocese and our church will have changed after this is all over?

Bishop Silva: Mostly, I believe we will have a greater appreciation for the Eucharist. As the saying goes, "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." Our "fasting" from the Eucharist and other sacraments will hopefully make us all the more appreciative of them.

I think we will probably be simpler in what we do and how we do it. One example is the monthly meeting of our Presbyteral (priests) Council. The Neighbor Island representatives fly in each month for a series of meetings. Our last few meetings have been on-line, saving us considerable money in airfares. Although a face-to-face meeting is always better, we may learn that we can all connect without leaving our homes. Maybe schools will also continue with more on-line learning opportunities to supplement the in-classroom work. In our necessity, we have tried new ways of connecting, and I think we will see that sometimes they can connect us fairly well.

Herald: Is there anything else you would like to add?

One of the blessings for me has been having five seminarians living with me at St. Stephen Diocesan Center. Since St. Patrick's Seminary (in Menlo Park, California) closed down for the semester and sent all the seminarians home to continue classes on-line, these five have been with me, and we have spent some good time together in this household on the hill. When this is all over — soon, we pray! — I hope we will be more patient and understanding with each other and help each other with the love of Christ that always gathers us together.

Q. WHAT LESSON(S) HAVE YOU LEARNED FROM THIS PANDEMIC?

We are looking for your responses, everyone! Please email, mail or call in, giving us permission to publish it in the bulletin. We would also be glad to hear from the keiki in your household. Nothing too formal, just a note about how you're doing, what you've learned and maybe pointers for others you think might benefit. This is a way to interact with other parishioners during this time. We miss you! Fellowship without touching. We will be happy to hear from you!

REQUESTING YOUR DONATIONS

Bottled water and individually-wrapped snacks such as cookies, crackers or nuts are needed for providing lunches to the homeless at Friendly Place. Please contact Ramona or the office if you can help.

ST. BENEDICT CEMETERY –Memorial Day

On Sunday May 24 and Monday May 25 the gate at St. Benedict church grounds will be open **only** for those who wish to remember and honor their deceased loved ones with flowers or just a visit. Please enter—pay your respects—and leave the grounds. We highly encourage that you wear a mask and observe the 6 ft. social distance rule. The church and restrooms will **not** be available. Sorry for the inconvenience.

ST. BENEDICT FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is open from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on **every 2nd and 4th Friday** of the month. Next open for distribution on Friday, **June 12, 2020**. Those who are in need due to recent loss of work are very welcome to take advantage of this community service.

Lord, soften our hearts, make us a compassionate people